

*Athens, August 6th, 1828.*

A very large number of the citizens of Clarke county, and persons from all parts of this state, casually in the village, met at the College Chapel, pursuant to notice, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Judge CLAYTON called the meeting to order, and stated briefly the object of it; and on his motion the Hon. WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD was appointed Chairman.

On motion, Judge CLAYTON and Mr. JAMES CAMAK were appointed Secretaries.

Judge WAYNE addressed the meeting briefly, and moved that a committee be appointed to draw up a report and resolutions on the subject of the late tariff, to be submitted to an adjourned meeting to-morrow.

Which motion having been adopted, the following persons were appointed to compose that committee, viz.:

Judge Wayne,	} of Chatham.
Hon. Senator Berrien,	
Hon. Senator Cobb, of Greene.	
Hon. Geo. R. Gilmer, of Oglethorpe.	
Judge Clayton, of Clarke.	
Dr. Charles Williamson, of Baldwin.	
Hon. C. C. Haynes, of Hancock.	
Judge M'Donald, of Bibb.	
Hon. Wilson Lumpkin, of Morgan.	
Geo. M. Troup, of Laurens.	

On motion the meeting was then adjourned till to-morrow 3 o'clock, P. M.

*August 7th, 1828.*

Pursuant to adjournment, about one thousand persons met at the College Chapel.

Judge WAYNE, from the committee appointed yesterday, submitted to the meeting the following report and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, with the exception of the 5th resolution, on which a division was called for; and on division that resolution was adopted by a large majority, not more than fifteen or twenty persons voting against it.

No act of Congress since the adoption of the Federal Constitution has caused more excitement in the Southern States than the act "in alteration of the several acts, imposing duties upon imports." Nor has any other act ever irritated the feelings of so large a portion of the American people into discontent with our Union, or created so much doubt of its prospective benefit. A measure which can weaken in any part of our nation an attachment cemented by so many remembrances of glory and of suffering, and hitherto strengthened by anticipations of national happiness and greatness, must be doubtful in its policy as well as in its constitutional authority. The principle assumed by the advocates of the tariff that Congress can, in the exercise of its powers to lay duties upon imports and to regulate commerce, use those powers to build up any one national interest at the expense of another, was not contemplated by the framers of the constitution. It was not conceived by them that a right to lay imposts, to raise revenue, to give stability to commerce, to pay the debts of the confederacy, and to prepare for those exigencies which might menace our honour or existence as a nation, could ever be used by Congress indirectly to produce by its operation upon commerce, a direct taxation, devoid of that uniformity which the constitution commands.

Such, however, is the construction of the constitution by a small majority in Congress; and if the interest which it fosters shall advance in the ratio of its past increase, and be cherished by the same spirit of protection, it will necessarily produce a total change in the commercial policy of the nation. Instead of enjoying a free trade with the world, reaping the advantages which the suitableness of our products to the wants of Europe will afford, extending that spirit of adventure which has carried the enterprize of our people over every sea into every land, we shall be compelled to an intercourse with our own states with inadequate capital to buy the products of agriculture. To the restrictions of Europe upon our trade, we shall have superadded multiplied